



State Revolving Fund Loan Programs

Drinking Water, Wastewater, Nonpoint Source

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

TOWN OF LIBERTY

REPLACEMENT OF DRINKING WATER MAIN ALONG STATE ROAD 44 WEST OF LIBERTY

SRF PROJECT DW09 04 81 02

DATE: February 12, 2009

TARGET PROJECT APPROVAL DATE: March 16, 2009

I. INTRODUCTION

The above entity has applied to the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF) for a loan to finance all or part of the drinking water project described in the accompanying Environmental Assessment (EA). As part of facilities planning requirements, an environmental review has been completed which addresses the project's impacts on the natural and human environment. This review is summarized in the attached EA.

II. PRELIMINARY FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FNSI)

The SRF Drinking Water Program has evaluated all pertinent environmental information regarding the proposed project and determined that an Environmental Impact Statement is not necessary. Subject to responses received during the 30-day public comment period, and pursuant to Indiana Code 4-4-11, it is our preliminary finding that the construction and operation of the proposed facilities will result in no significant adverse environmental impact. In the absence of significant comments, the attached EA shall serve as the final environmental document.

III. COMMENTS

All interested parties may comment upon the EA/FNSI. Comments must be received at the address below by the deadline date above. Significant comments may prompt a reevaluation of the preliminary FNSI; if appropriate, a new FNSI will be issued for another 30-day public comment period. A final decision to proceed, or not to proceed, with the proposed project shall be effected by finalizing, or not finalizing, the FNSI as appropriate. Comments regarding this document should be sent within 30 days to:

Max Henschen
Senior Environmental Manager
State Revolving Fund -- IGCN 1275
100 N. Senate Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
317-232-8623

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

I. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Name and Address:	Town of Liberty P.O. Box 7 Liberty, IN 47353
SRF Project Number:	DW 09 04 81 02
Authorized Representative:	Chris Rosenberger, President Liberty Town Council

II. PROJECT LOCATION

Liberty proposes to replace an existing 8-inch water line along State Road 44 in the Liberty USGS Quadrangle, T11N, R2W Sections 3, 4, 9, 10, 11 in Liberty Township and section 12 in Center Township at the east end of the project. The proposed project is shown on Figure 1.

III. PROJECT NEED AND PURPOSE

The cast iron water line was installed in 1960 and has experienced 17 water line breaks in 2008; 11 occurred in November. The main is severely corroded. This water line serves as the only drinking water feed for Liberty; when the line breaks, the town may be without drinking water if the repair time is lengthy and if the water storage tank is drained.

IV. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The town proposes to replace approximately 5,626 feet of 8-inch cast iron water line with 8-inch ductile iron water line from West Road along State Road 44 east to the water tower in the industrial park south of SR 44. East from the water tower, the town will replace the 8-inch cast iron water line with approximately 9,663 feet of 10-inch ductile iron water main to a point just west of 525 West SR 44. The project will also include several hydrants, valves, interconnections to water mains along the route, as well as service connections tie-ins and stream crossings.

V. ESTIMATED PROJECT COSTS, AFFORDABILITY AND FUNDING

A. Selected Plan Estimated Cost Summary

Construction Costs:

State Road 44 west water main replacement	\$ 750,313
Construction contingencies	<u>75,031</u>
Construction Cost	825,344

Non-Construction Costs

Engineering Fees	\$ 246,000
Legal, bond counsel, financial advisor, administration	<u>79,656</u>
Non-Construction Cost \$	<u>325,656</u>

Total Estimated Project Cost \$1,151,000

- B. Liberty will finance the project with a 20-year loan from the State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program at an interest rate to be determined at the time of loan closing. Monthly user rates and charges may need to be analyzed to determine if adjustments are required for loan repayment.

VI. DESCRIPTION OF EVALUATED ALTERNATIVES

No-Action Alternative: The no-action alternative would allow the water main breaks to continue, risking a drinking water shortage during outages. This alternative was rejected.

Alternative Water Main Replacement Routes: The town considered two different water main routes; both were rejected because of construction difficulties and easement acquisition. The selected route minimizes the number of easements needed.

VII. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THE FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES

A. Direct Impacts of Construction and Operation

Undisturbed/Disturbed Land: Since some of the land along SR 44 where the line will be placed could be considered suitable to contain archaeological resources, a reconnaissance level archeological survey was conducted on those areas. The survey did not find archaeological materials.

Structural Resources: There is no published Interim Report listing historic sites in Union County. The Union County Historian, in correspondence dated January 27, 2009, stated: *I have reviewed the map of the Project Area for the Liberty Emergency Water Main Project and have determined that the project will not affect properties on or eligible for inclusion on the State or National Register of Historic Places. In addition, there are no historical structural resources or districts listed for the Project Area on any of the DHPA [IDNR Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology] websites.*

Surface Waters (Figure 1) and Wetlands (Figure 2): According to the town's application to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management's wetland permit section, there will be seven crossings of ephemeral streams and one crossing of Silver Creek, a perennial stream; all will be open cut. On shown on Figure 1, crossings A-1 and A-2 are tributaries to Brookville Lake; crossings A-3 through A-5 are tributaries to Whitewater Lake, crossings A-6 and A-7 are Silver Creek tributaries, and crossing A-7 is Silver Creek. Silver Creek is a riverine wetland.

100-Year Floodplain (Figure 3a and 3b): Since the pipe will be underground, no floodwater displacement will occur in the Silver Creek 100-year floodplain.

Groundwater: The project will negatively affect a sole source aquifer or other groundwater resources.

Plants and Animals: Approximately 27% of the proposed water main length will be located in wooded areas; tree removal will be minimized. A maximum of one acre of tree removal will be necessary. The town's Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) states that *Tree removal could be further minimized because the project t includes a mandatory alternate of installing 1,280' of water main the wooded area by horizontal directional drilling if it is cost-effective to do so.* The project is unlikely to affect endangered plants or animals.

Prime Farmland: The project will not cause a conversion of prime/unique farmland.

Air Quality: Air quality will be temporarily impacted by construction activities, including vehicle exhaust and dust.

Open Space and Recreational Opportunities: The proposed project will neither create nor destroy open space and recreational opportunities. The proposed projects will not affect National Natural Landmarks.

B. Indirect Impacts

The town's PER states: *The Town, through the authority of its council, planning commission or other means, will ensure that future development, as well as future water systems or other drinking water projects connected to SRF-funded facilities will not adversely impact wetlands, wooded areas, archaeological/historical/structural resources, or other sensitive environmental resources. The Town will require new development and drinking water projects to be constructed within the guidelines of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, IDNR, IDEM, and other environmental review authorities.*

C. Comments from Environmental Review Authorities

This document serves as the first notice to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the IDNR Environmental Unit.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service has been contacted for comment.

The IDNR Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology, in correspondence dated February 6, 2009, stated: *Based on our analysis, it has been determined that no historic properties will be altered, demolished, or removed by the proposed project. We concur with the archaeological report that no further archaeological investigations are necessary. If any*

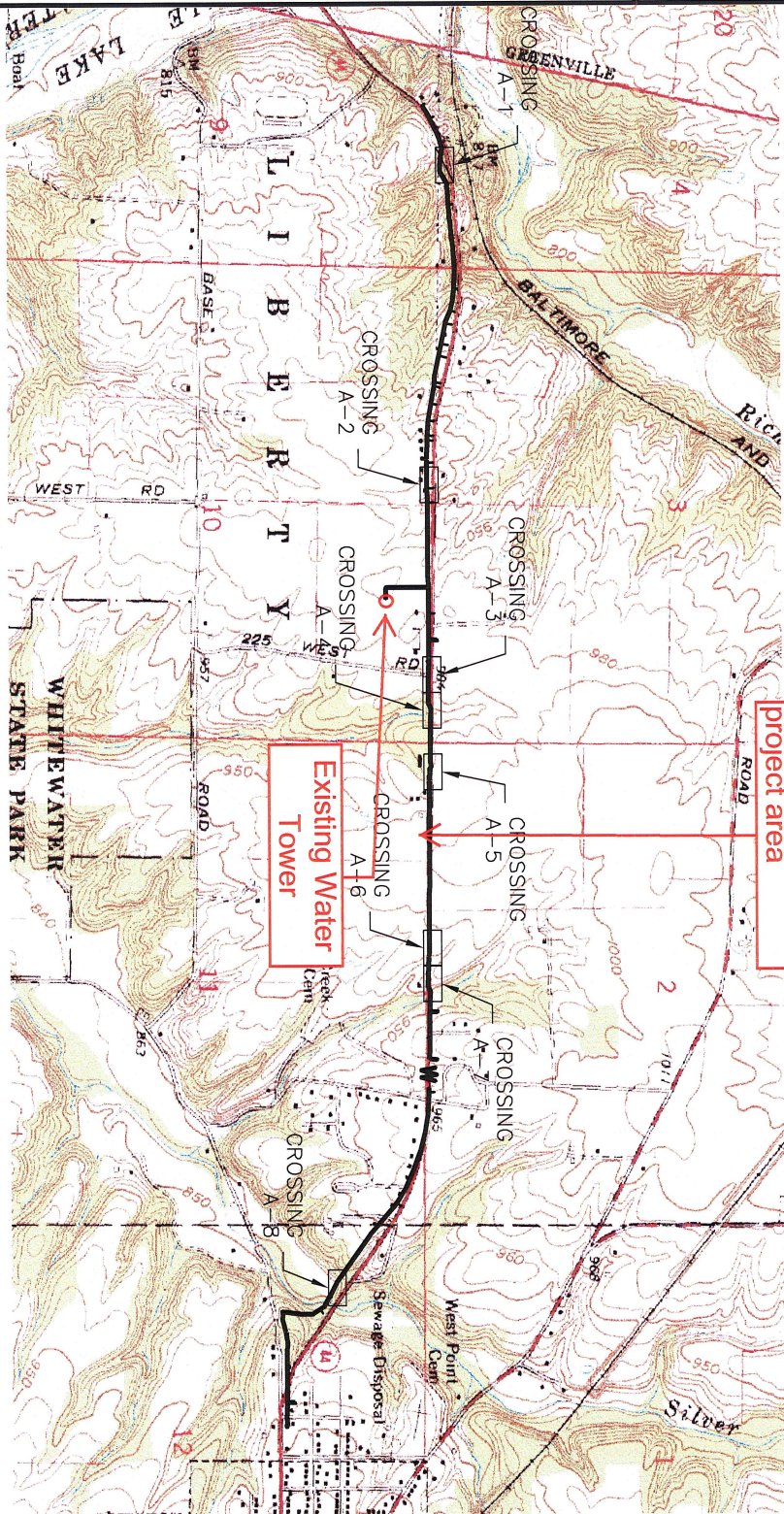
archaeological artifacts, features, or human remains are uncovered during construction, state law (IC-14-21-1-27 & 29) requires that the discovery must be reported to the Department of Natural Resources within two (2) business days.

VIII. MITIGATION MEASURES

The utility's PER states: A rule 5 (327 IAC 15-5) permit will be obtained for sediment and erosion control associated with the construction. Silt fencing and erosion control blankets, if necessary, will be utilized to prevent erosion in the areas of construction activity. Disturbed land will be temporarily seeded if permanent seeding is delayed. No borrow soil will be used to this project. Soil will be piled along the side of the trench and used for backfill. Specifications will require proper watering and cleanup practices to reduce the generation of dust and other construction debris. The removal of trees and other natural vegetation will be minimized. Mitigation measures cited in comment letters from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources and the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service will be implemented.

IX. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A Public Hearing will be held on February 16 at the County Courthouse in Liberty to discuss the project with the public.



OVERVIEW
SCALE: 1" = 2000'

DRAWN BY	CHECKED BY	APPROVED BY
N.K.C.	J.R.P.	M.A.W.
DRAWING SCALE		
AS SHOWN		
PROJECT NUMBER		
123908.01G		

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WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT

LIBERTY TOWN COUNCIL
LIBERTY, IN

FIGURE 1

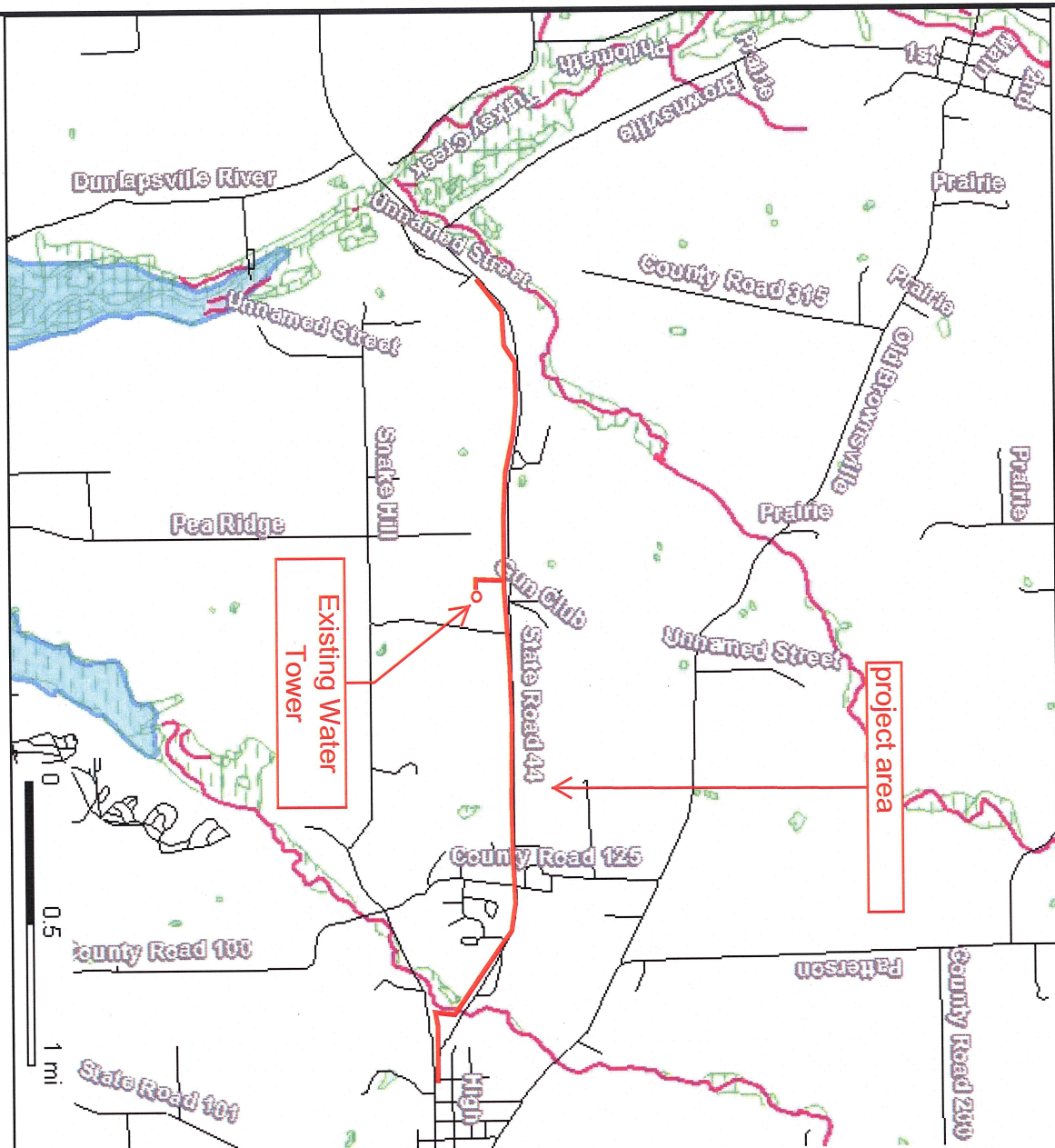
STREAM/DITCH CROSSINGS

CURRENT SHEET NO.

1

TOTAL SHEETS

1



The map was prepared by the Indiana Geological Survey, using data believed to be accurate; however, a margin of error is inherent in all maps. This product is distributed "AS-IS" without warranties of any kind, either expressed or implied, including but not limited to warranties of suitability of a particular purpose or use. There is no attempt in either design or production of this map to define the limits or jurisdiction of any federal, state or local government. A detailed on-the-ground survey and historical analysis of a single site may differ from this map.

Indiana Geological Survey

Scale 1:37581

- Legend**
- Wetland Points
 - Wetland Lines
 - Wetlands

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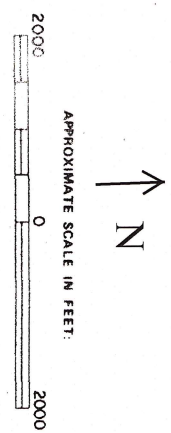
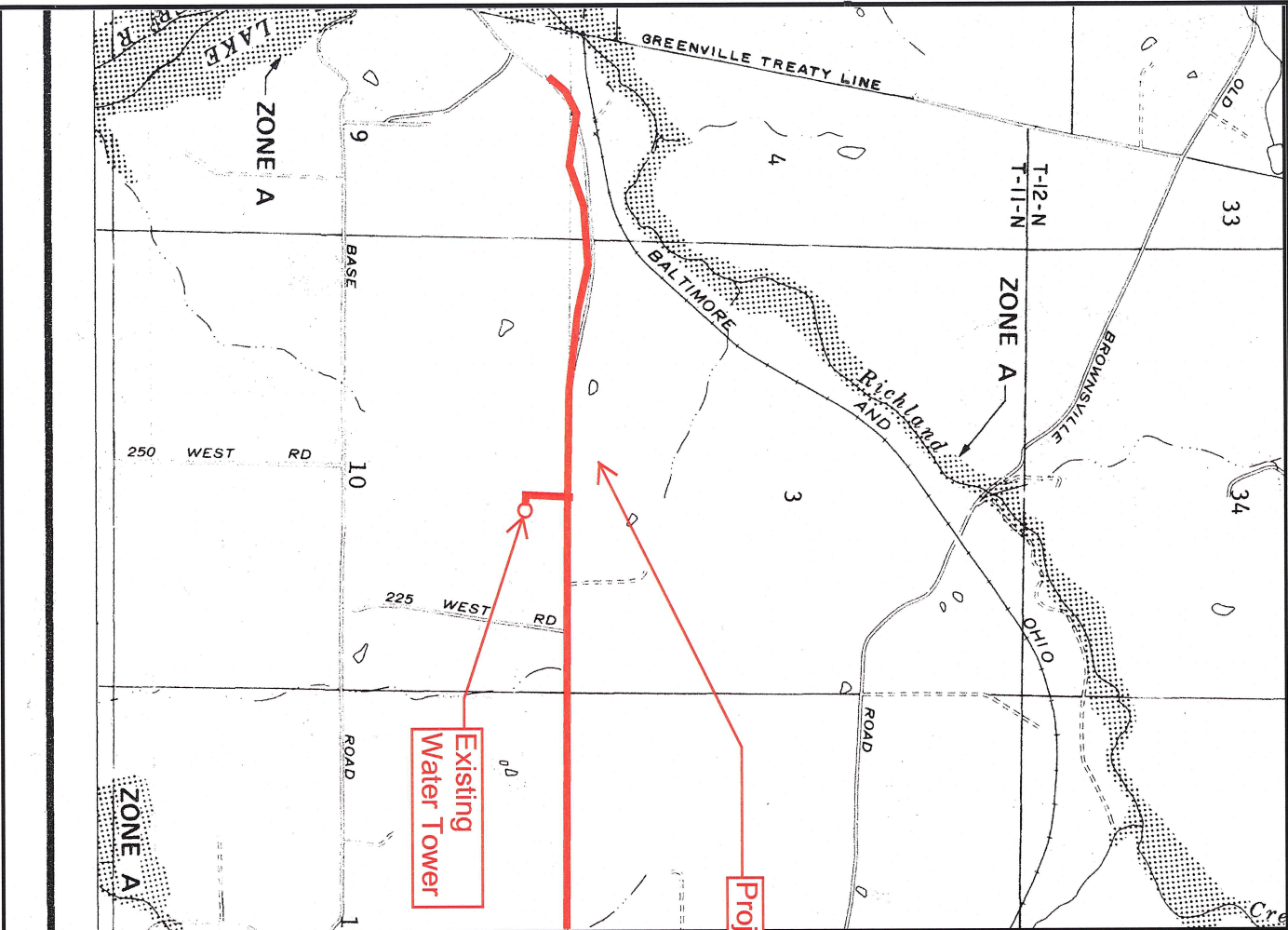
FIGURE 2 WETLAND MAP

CURRENT SHEET NO.

1

TOTAL SHEETS

1



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
FEDERAL INSURANCE ADMINISTRATION**

COMMUNITY - PANEL NUMBER
180411 0001 A

EFFECTIVE DATE:
MARCH 4, 1977

CONVERTED BY LETTER
EFFECTIVE 4/1/88

FLOOD HAZARD BOUNDARY MAP

**UNION COUNTY
INDIANA
UNINC. AREAS**

PAGE 1 OF 2
(SEE MAP INDEX FOR PAGES PRINTED)

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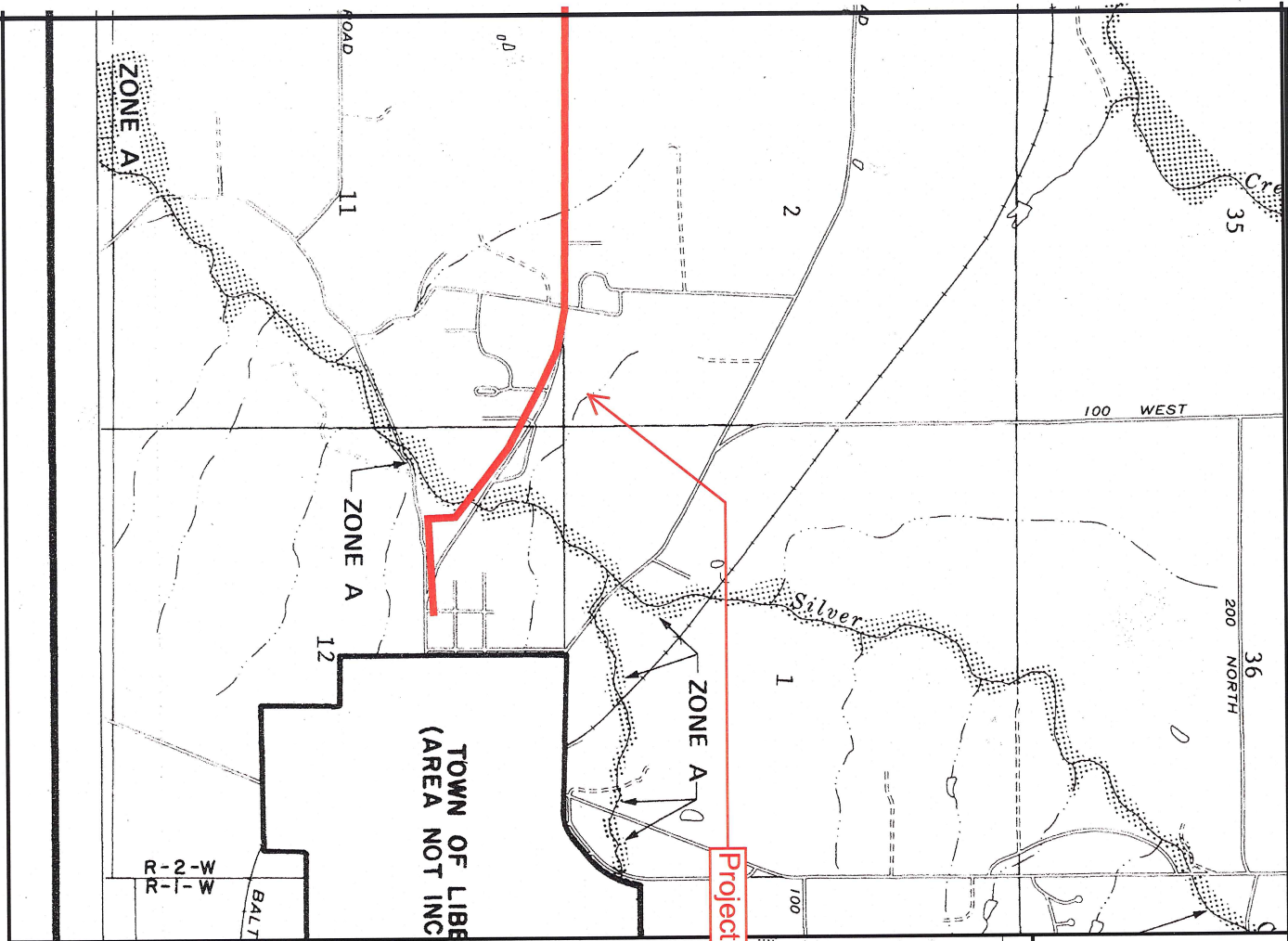
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WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT
LIBERTY TOWN COUNCIL LIBERTY, IN
FIGURE 3a
FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP

CURRENT SHEET NO.
1
TOTAL SHEETS
3



INDIANA OHIO UNION CO PREBLE

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**
FEDERAL INSURANCE ADMINISTRATION

COMMUNITY - PANEL NUMBER
180411 0001 A

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FLOOD HAZARD BOUNDARY MAP

**UNION COUNTY
INDIANA
UNINC. AREAS**

PAGE 1 OF 2
(SEE MAP INDEX FOR PAGES PRINTED)

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APPROXIMATE SCALE IN FEET:

2000 0 2000

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WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT
LIBERTY TOWN COUNCIL LIBERTY, IN
FIGURE 3b
FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP

CURRENT SHEET NO.
2
TOTAL SHEETS
3

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